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5 June 1961

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN



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State Dept. review completed

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Approved For Release 2003/04/17 : CIA-RDP79T00975A005700350001-0

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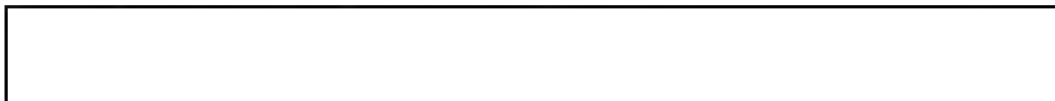
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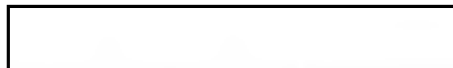
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South Korea: South Korean insurgent leaders reportedly are considering the adoption of a new constitution patterned on that of the French Fifth Republic, providing for a strong executive. After the fall of the Rhee government last year there was considerable interest among more conservative South Korean elements in such a constitution. However, a spokesman for the ruling Supreme Council for National Reconstruction has vigorously denounced as "absolutely groundless" and "irresponsible" recent press speculation forecasting an early return to civilian control. US Chargé Green in Seoul notes that, so far, embassy contacts with government officials and members of the junta tend to indicate that those insistent on an extended period of military rule continue to exercise decisive influence in the Supreme Council.

Meanwhile, the regime is moving ahead with plans to promulgate a "basic law" that will in effect set aside those provisions of

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the present constitution dealing with civil rights and the National Assembly and "legalize" the assumption of power by the Supreme Council. The leadership is concerned that unless legal continuity is maintained with the Rhee and Chang Myon governments, Seoul's claim to be the only legitimate Korean government will be regarded as no more valid than that of Pyongyang. The foreign minister has announced that special missions will visit various noncommitted nations to win greater support in the UN for South Korea.

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USSR - Somali Republic: Moscow, continuing to broaden its ties with African states through the extension of long-term economic aid, announced on 2 June that it will provide the Somali Republic with \$44,400,000 in long-term credits for industrial and agricultural development and with a \$7,800,000 credit to finance commodity deliveries. The Soviet Union will also build two hospitals, a printing plant, a school, and a radio station as gifts. The announcement was contained in the communiqué marking the end of a ten-day visit to the USSR by Somali Prime Minister Abdirasid. The economic agreement is in line with the announced intention of the moderate Somali Government to accept aid from all sources; it has been pending since last April when a Soviet good-will mission visited the East African nation. Mogadiscio appears to be headed toward early conclusion of similar aid programs with Czechoslovakia and possibly Communist China.

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Iran: Following a conversation with the Shah on 31 May, Prime Minister Amini was reported "greatly encouraged" by the Shah's reaffirmation of support for the government and for Amini's reform program. The Shah demonstrated this support by not countermanding Amini's order canceling the appointment of former Prime Minister Eqbal as ambassador to Spain. This appointment apparently had been ordered by the Shah about the middle of May without consultation with Amini and was regarded by many Iranians as evidence of the Shah's intention to undercut

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the prime minister. Amini hopes to see the Shah frequently to sustain his support for the government. The Shah and Amini have no essential differences on foreign policy and particularly on the necessity of Iran's membership in CENTO. In spite of the present appearance of cooperation, however, there has been no change in the basic source of conflict between the two--the monarch's unwillingness to refrain from direct participation in the government.

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